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PTO/SB/2 (08-03)

Approved for use through 08/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/765,818 (6,997,704)	
	Filing Date	01/27/2004 (02/14/2006)	
	First Named Inventor	Crump et al.	
	Art Unit	3749	
	Examiner Name	Gregory A. Wilson	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	13	Attorney Docket Number	BW-DKT02175A

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Certificate MAR 20 2006 of Correction	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Brown & Michaels, PC
Signature	
Date	3/10/06

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING	
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Typed or printed name	Judy H. Barron
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Date	3-10-06

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MAR 21 2006



Patent No. 6,997,704

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Number: 6,997,704
Issued: February 14, 2006
Name of Patentee: Crump et al.
Title of Invention: "Method And Apparatus To Aid In the Delubrication of Parts"

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231
Attn: Decision and Certificate of Correction Branch
of the Patent Issue Division**

**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF PATENT
FOR PTO MISTAKE (37 CFR 1.322)**

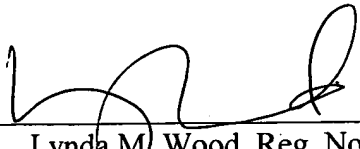
1. Attached in duplicate is Form PTO-1050 with at least one copy being suitable for printing.
2. The exact page and line number where errors occur in the application file are:

Column 3, line 10: Delete the word "place" and add the word --placing--.

3. Attached is a copy of the amendment filed February 9, 2005 showing the correct spelling of the word --placing-- in Claim 1 element (b).
4. Please send the Certificate to:

Lynda M. Wood
Brown & Michaels, P.C.
400 M&T Bank Building
118 North Tioga Street
Ithaca, New York 14850-4343

Assignee: BorgWarner Inc.

By: 
Lynda M. Wood, Reg. No. 53,791
Agent of Record

☒ Assignment recorded on January 27, 2004 Reel: 014942 Frame: 0057

MAR 21 2006

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,997,704

DATED: February 14, 2006

INVENTOR(S): Crump et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 3, line 10: Delete the word "place" and add the word --placing--.

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

PATENT NO. 6,997,704

Brown & Michaels
400 M&T Bank Building
118 North Tioga Street
Ithaca, New York 14850-4343

(PTO FORM 1050)

MAR 21 2006

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,997,704
DATED: February 14, 2006
INVENTOR(S): Crump et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 3, line 10: Delete the word "place" and add the word --placing--.

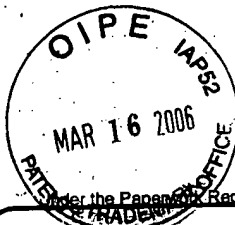
MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

PATENT NO. 6,997,704

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(PTO FORM 1050)

JAN 21 2006



PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/765,818	
	Filing Date	01/27/2004	
	First Named Inventor	Crump et al.	
	Art Unit	3749	
	Examiner Name	Wilson, Gregory A.	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	13	Attorney Docket Number	BW-DKT02175A

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<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

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Firm or Individual name	Brown & Michaels, PC
Signature	
Date	2-9-05

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21 400b



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

February 9, 2005

Serial No. 10/765,818
Applicant: Crump et al.
Filed: 1/27/2004
Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS TO AID IN THE
DELUBRIFICATION OF PARTS
Art Unit: 3749
Examiner: Wilson, Gregory A.
Confirmation Number: 2487
Attorney Docket No.: BW.DKT02175A

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT
AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action dated November 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

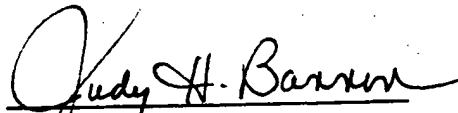
Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 5 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Certified Mail No.: 7003 0500 0002
3235 0091 Date: 2-9-05

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Judy H. Barron

4000

Amendments of the Claims:

A detailed listing of all claims in the application is presented below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. All claims being currently amended are submitted with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative to immediate prior version of the claims. The changes in any amended claim are being shown by strikethrough (for deleted matter) or underlined (for added matter).

1. (Currently Amended) A method of delubrifcation of parts containing lubricant on a belt comprising:
 - a) heating the belt with a belt warmer before placing parts on the belt;
 - b) placing parts on the belt;
 - a) c) moving the parts on the belt into a chamber of the furnace, the chamber having a vent for removing combustible atmosphere;
 - b) d) heating the parts uniformly from underneath the belt, by forcing hot atmosphere through the belt;
 - e) igniting unused combustible atmosphere in the chamber above the parts on the belt, using a burner; and
 - d) f) allowing the atmosphere above the parts to escape through the vent.
2. (Cancelled) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of heating the belt with a belt warmer.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 1, wherein the belt warmer is an electric element.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the electric element applies heat in a range of 100°F to 1500°F.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising a heat shield surrounding the belt warmer, at least one blower, and at least one source of hot atmosphere wherein the

~~belt warmer, at least one blower, and at least one source of the hot atmosphere are surrounded by a heat shield.~~

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of independently controlling the at least one blower and the at least one source of hot atmosphere.
7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the at least one blower applies a pressure range of 5 to 100 psi and a volume range of 20 to 2000 cfm.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the hot atmosphere has a temperature range of 400°F to 1600°F.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the hot atmosphere is air.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the hot atmosphere is rich in an oxidizing agent.
11. (Currently Amended) A delubrication apparatus for use with a furnace, the apparatus comprising:
 - an a vented chamber for receiving a belt, carrying parts containing lubricant;
 - at least one plenum located beneath the belt, the plenums each having a heat source and blower to provide uniform heat to the parts on the belt; and
 - a burner above the parts on the belt for igniting unused combustible atmosphere in the vented chamber; andwherein the blower of each plenum forces the atmosphere around the parts containing lubricant to exit the vented chamber through a vent.
12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising a belt warmer for heating the belt.
13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the belt warmer is surrounded by a heat shield.
14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the belt warmer is an electric element.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the electric element applies heat in a range of 100°F to 1500°F.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the at least one plenum is surrounded by a heat shield.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the heat source and the blower underneath the belt are independently controlled.
18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the heat source of the at least one plenum applies a temperature in the range of 400°F to 1600°F.
19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the blowers of the at least one plenum applies a pressure range of 5 to 100 psi and a volume range of 20 to 2000 cfm.
20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the hot atmosphere is air.
21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the hot atmosphere is rich in an oxidizing agent.

REMARKS

The office action of November 16, 2004 has been reviewed and its contents carefully noted. Reconsideration of this case, as amended, is requested. Claims 1, and 3 through 21 remain in this case, claim 2 being cancelled by this response.

Claim 1 was amended to include allowable claim 2. Claim 5 was amended to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Claim 3 was amended to change the claim dependency and claim 11 was amended to fix a typographical error. No new matter has been added.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) for failing to include reference sign(s) mentioned in the description, specifically Zone 1, 2, and 3, (zones displayed as 12, 14, and 16). Zone 1, 2, and 3 have been added to Figures 1-4 and replacement drawings are filed with this response. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections are respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant believes that these amendments have fully addressed the Examiner's rejections, and the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 9, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Groff et al. (USPN 5,906,485). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection.

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet(s) of drawings include changes as listed below. The attached replacement sheet(s) replace the original sheet(s).

The changes are as follows.

Zone 1, Zone 2, and Zone 3 have been added to Figures 1-4

Attachment: 4 Replacement Sheet(s)

Applicant's claim 1 includes the step of "a) heating the belt with a belt warmer" and then "b) placing the parts on the belt" Groff et al. does teach or disclose the step of heating the belt with a belt warmer prior to placing the parts with the lubricant on the belt.

Therefore, it is respectfully suggested that the rejection of independent claim 1 as being anticipated by Groff et al. (USPN 5,906,485) is overcome. Dependent claims 9 and 10, being dependent upon and further limiting independent claim 1, should also be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations they contain. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-4 and 8 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Such action has been taken for claim 2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner's statement that claims 11-21 are allowable.

Conclusion

Applicant believes the claims, as amended, are patentable over the prior art, and that this case is now in condition for allowance of all claims therein. Such action is thus respectfully requested. If the Examiner disagrees, or believes for any other reason that direct contact with Applicants' attorney would advance the prosecution of the case to finality, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

"Recognizing that Internet communications are not secured, I hereby authorize the PTO to communicate with me concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file."

Respectfully Submitted:
Crump et al.

By: 

Lynda Wood, Reg. No. 53,791
Agent for Applicant

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Dated: February 9, 2005